



North Carolina Department of Transportation
Transportation Program Management Unit - Value Management
Innovative Technologies and Products Awareness Report
October 4, 2017

PRODUCT HIGHLIGHT – AGGROW WATTLE

AGgrow Wattle is a Sediment Retention Device (SRD) that uses sustainably grown Freedom™ Giant Miscanthus biomass filter media inside a polyester geotextile skin. The Freedom™ Giant Miscanthus is certified as sustainably grown by SCS Global Services. The product is grown and manufactured by AGgrow Tech LLC, a Greensboro, North Carolina based company.

SRDs are a part of the Best Management Practices utilized by NCDOT to protect the ecology from construction and maintenance activities. They act by trapping sediment run-off from the construction site and only allow clean water to enter the storm water system – AGgrow Wattle is shown to retain 97% of the soil that is filtered through. The product functionality is similar to a compost filter sock but is lighter weight which provides more efficient transport and installation. It requires minimal trenching at installation, saving cost and time when compared to traditional SRDs. The AGgrow Wattle can be used in difficult terrain including storm basins or other challenging ground conditions.



AGgrow Wattle

Following project conclusion, the geotextile skin can be discarded. The certified weed free biomass filter can then be used to promote vegetation growth by providing a neutral pH environment for seeds. The easy installation and the benefit of leaving the filter in place at project conclusion has the potential of saving the Department time and money. This product is still under evaluation and pending additional technical data will be continuously monitored if used in the field.

Additional information can be found at: <http://aggrowtech.com/aggrow-wattle/>

TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION – UTILITY ENCROACHMENT WEBSITE

In an effort to streamline the utility encroachment review process and establish metrics for review times, the Utilities Unit, with the help of NCDOT IT, has launched an Online Encroachment Submission website.

This process also provides transparency by allowing the applicants, utility owners, to see where their encroachment submission is at any stage. Utility owners are able to submit their own encroachment requests, follow their requests through review and approval, and retrieve approval documents electronically.

This website is available to applicants and NCDOT encroachment personnel. The user establishes a unique NCID and given access to the Online Encroachment Submission website. Each applicant is granted rights to submit applications and review their own submitted applications. The Department is able to analyze internal review times at different stages and make process improvements. This online system not only saves time but resources as well by reducing paper waste and time spent mailing documents back and forth.

Screenshot of Online Encroachment Submission webpage.